

# The Baptist Record

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## Atheists Protest Hiring Of N. C. Police Chaplain

By Charles Richardson  
CHARLOTTE, N. C. (BP) — The Mecklenburg County chapter of American Atheists wants the Charlotte police department to get rid of its new chaplain, 38-year-old Dennis Whitaker, a graduate of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

A suit has been filed in U.S. District Court against the city and Police Chief J. C. Goodman, claiming the arrangement is "unconstitutional" because it "entangles" church and state. The Charlotte chaplain's fulltime arrangement is believed to be the only one of its kind in North Carolina, but is in effect at other places in the U.S., according to Burke Holland, who heads the chaplaincy program for the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

"I believe this may be the first case filed in the United States dealing with the constitutionality of police chaplain's positions," says Richard D. Borer, assistant attorney for Charlotte.

Under a special arrangement, the police department is sharing the cost of Whitaker's \$20,000 annual salary with the Providence Baptist Church of Charlotte. The Baptist State Con-

vention's department of chaplaincy and the SBC Home Mission Board also contribute to his salary, according to Holland. Half of his salary is paid by Baptists and half by the city for the first year of the new program.

Patricia J. Voswinkle, the plaintiff who filed the suit on behalf of the 100-member atheist organization in Charlotte, called the arrangement "an entanglement because the church is paying half of this man's salary." The Charlotte City Council recently approved the financial arrangement, according to Henry Crouch, pastor of Providence Baptist Church.

Mrs. Voswinkle cited the 1st and 14th Amendments, stating that her organization wanted to eliminate the position of chaplain and forbid the city from hiring another one.

Charlotte City Attorney Henry Underhill said the contract does not violate constitutional rights and said the focus of the contract is on crisis intervention types of work.

"The chaplain may, upon specific request of an officer, provide spiritual counseling but only upon specific request," the attorney said. "He is prohibited from conducting

religious services. The contract prohibits that sort of arrangement. That's why the contract does not violate constitutional rights," he said. American Atheists is a national organization with chapters across the

country. Madalyn Murray O'Hair of Austin, Texas, is president.

Henry Crouch, whose church is supporting the program, served as the police department's chaplain on a voluntary basis for the past 11 years.

### Christian Service Award

President Jimmy Carter receives Christian Service Award from Frederick W. Isaacs Jr., Chairman of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, in a ceremony in the Cabinet Room at the White House. The commission presented the



award to Carter as part of its 11th annual Abe Lincoln Awards for his continuing dedication to the cause of Jesus Christ. Carter could not attend the regular Abe Lincoln Awards presentation by the commission, Feb. 28, in Fort Worth because of current world crises. (BP Photo)

### 69 Students Appointed To Missions

The Mississippi Baptist Student Union student missions committee has appointed a total of 69 persons to student missions including 60 to home missions and 9 to foreign missions.

One of those nine will be a semester missionary working in Guadalajara, Mexico.

The committee spent 59 hours of interviewing and deliberating over the appointment of these students whose expenses are being raised by their fellow students in 26 Mississippi colleges and universities.

The appointees and their places of (Continued on Page 3)

### Add Avar And Moldavian To Ever-Expanding List

NEW YORK — At least one book of the Bible had been published by the end of 1979 in 1,685 of the world's languages and distinct dialects, according to the American Bible Society.

This represents an increase of 26 languages over the 1978 count. Among these are 6 languages spoken in Papua, New Guinea, 4 in Nigeria, 3 in Mexico, 3 in Ethiopia and two each in the USSR: Avar and Moldavian.

First publications of the entire Bible were published in five languages: Bari in Sudan, Gouro on Ivory Coast, Isin-debele in Rhodesia, Lango in Uganda and Pazande in Zaire. All of these Bibles were published under the auspices of the United Bible Societies.

There were 25 languages in which complete New Testaments were reported published for the first time. New Testaments were the first Scriptures ever published in the languages of Bokyi of Nigeria and Moldavian of Moldavia.

Geographically speaking, Africa has the largest number of languages (492) in which at least one book of the Bible has been translated. Asia ranks second with 429 languages and Latin America third with 275. In Australia and the South Pacific, Scriptures have

been published in 246 languages, in Europe 179, and in North America 62.

The complete Bible has been published in 273 languages; New Testaments in 472, and Portions in 940.

Esperanto and Volapuk, commonly called international languages, are also included in the total of 1,685.

The American Bible Society, founded in 1816, is a non-profit, non-denominational organization whose sole purpose is the translation, publication and distribution of the Holy Scripture without doctrinal note or comment.

### Mississippian To Advise "Women In Evangelism"

ATLANTA (BP) — A worldwide prayer covenant has been urged by the newly formed National board of advisors on Women in Evangelism at the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. The 29-member board, in its first meeting at Stone Mountain Park near Atlanta, passed a resolution calling on "Christian women in every time zone around the world to join in a concerted prayer movement for worldwide spiritual awakening."

The board also discussed specific ways to minister and evangelize women, and underwent training on leading lifestyle evangelism workshops in their home states.

In the resolution, the women said their call to prayer daily at noon comes as a "response to the urgency of the world and individual situations," and is a realization that a spiritual awakening is the only hope for the world.

The resolution noted that spiritual awakening has come during similar periods of world history "as a result of unified, explicit, extraordinary prayer on the part of all of God's people," and added that prayer is both the greatest need and greatest resource of Christians.

It said the movement should begin with Southern Baptist women who are living and serving around the world and expand to other groups. Laura Fry of Atlanta, national consultant on women in evangelism at the Home Mission Board, said the board of advisors is to "help determine directions and to create innovative ways of

helping women share their faith in Jesus Christ."

The 29 women who serve on the board are from 26 of the 34 Baptist state conventions, and "represent a cross section of the womanhood in the nation," Fry said. "They are from different lifestyles, geography, areas of responsibility in the church, age, education and marital status."



The National Board of Advisors on Women in Evangelism has been formed by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. The women's group is designed to "train, encourage, direct, and to create innovative ways of helping women share their faith in Jesus Christ" across the United States. Mississippi's representative on the 29-member board is Miss Laura Fry of Atlanta, Ga., HMB national consultant for women in evangelism.

## HMB Staff Appointments Indicate Emphasis Shift

ATLANTA (BP) — Southern Baptist Home Mission Board directors filled two staff vacancies and named a consultant for multi-family housing during their February meeting.

Staff appointments were Hubert O. Hurt of Jacksonville, Fla., director of trans-cultural outreach for the language missions division, and Esther Milligan Burroughs of Birmingham, Ala., assistant director of the special mission ministries department. J. David Beal of Atlanta, Ga., was approved for the consulting post, an extension of the metropolitan missions department.

Hurt, who will assume his duties April 1, will help Southern Baptists cross cultural barriers by influencing churches to provide ministries for ethnic groups, said Oscar Romo, director of the board's language missions division.

Hurt, former missionary in Cuba, Panama, Louisiana and Florida, has been state director of language missions in Florida since 1974. He has also served as a pastor in Mississippi and a school teacher in Georgia. He is a graduate of East Central Junior College, Mississippi College, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Mississippi Southern College.

Burroughs will correlate and lead the ministries of Mission Youth Groups and Sojourners, mission action programs for high school groups and individuals. She also will provide leadership and direction to Baptist campus ministries and Woman's Missionary Union relationships.

She has been director of campus ministries at Samford University since

1971. Previously, she was minister of youth activities at First Baptist Church, Abilene, Texas. She is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University.

Beal, who has done extensive work in apartment ministries, will fill a position designed to meet the spiritual needs of increasing numbers of urban dwellers, said Don Hammer, metropolitan missions director.

Beal has been weekday ministries consultant for the Atlanta Baptist Association since 1971, and has been a pastor, student missionary and Christ-

ian social ministries center director. He is a graduate of Southwest Baptist College, Southwest Missouri State College, William Jewell College, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

In addition, board members approved appointment of 60 persons for missions service including 14 missionaries, 13 missionary associates, 8 mission pastor interns, and 25 people who will receive language pastoral assistance or church pastoral assistance.

### History Scores Twice On St. Vincent Island

KINGSTOWN, St. Vincent — History was made twice in one day here on this 18-by-12-mile island in the southern Caribbean.

After 216 years as a British colony and after 10 years as a state in union with Britain, St. Vincent became an independent nation. On that same day, Southern Baptist mission work made history as the Kingstown Baptist Church moved into its own property.

The Kingstown church, which is the first Southern Baptist missionary-affiliated church on the island, is two and a half years old and has grown to 150 people.

The church facilities are also a historical site for St. Vincent. The building is a renovated 100-year-old plantation house, known as Montrose Manor. The

pastor, missionary Don Overstreet, said at the first service: "It was significant that the first location for our church was a converted carpenter's shop, for we worship the great carpenter — Jesus of Nazareth. It's now significant that we worship in a converted mansion — for we are children of the King, joint-heirs with Christ, and there is already prepared for us a 'mansion in glory.'"

At the end of the first service, the first profession of faith was made by Matthew Stephens. After spending almost 16 years in prison for murder, he was released for the independence celebration.

One day he was set free by men; the next day he was set free by Christ.

## Moss Point Baptists Match Their Talents With Community Needs

By Anne McWilliams

Norris Faggard, a Moss Point Baptist layman, walks up to the entrance of the Jackson County Youth Court Detention Center on a Sunday morning, and presses the doorbell. Inside, the officer on duty releases the lock.

This is an every-Sunday occurrence, as Faggard teaches Sunday School for young people, under 18, who have been locked up after a skirmish with the law. His class is one of a wide range of outreach ministries sponsored by First Baptist Church, Moss Point. In its Christian social ministries the church provides Sunday School classes, recreation, tutoring, music, and Scripture portions for many groups. Church members direct the activities.

Richard Handley is volunteer coordinator of the activities. A 1978 graduate of Mississippi College, from Piquette, he is working on his Master's in social work. He plans later to enter New Orleans Seminary. His wife, Patty (daughter of Paul

Faggard, minister of music at First Magee, has already received her Master's in social work; the two plan to serve together through a career in Christian social ministries.

"The call to Christian service," as Handley sees it, is "where the needs of

the world and our talents meet." He added, "The church has the responsibility to minister not only to spiritual needs, but to the whole person."

Along the same line of thought, Norris Faggard said, "I have a great con-

(Continued on Page 5)



Norris Faggard, right, teaches the Sunday School lesson every Sunday morning at the Jackson County Youth Court Detention Center.

### Arrests Made In Church Robbery Case

Five men, accused of robbing the congregation of Fort Bayou Church, Jackson County, during the evening worship service January 20 were arrested on Feb. 1, according to a story in the Mississippi Press Register, Pascagoula newspaper.

The men were Alvin Eugene Broughton, 22, Gautier; Michael Ray Hill, 24, Biloxi; William Barber, 24, Ocean Springs; Eddie King, 23, Gautier; and Alva G. Cruse, 20, Gautier.

The five were living in a house in Gautier, where Pascagoula police, after obtaining a search warrant, found the ski masks and fatigues the Fort Bayou members had described they wore. The police also found 75 or more stolen items in the house. On the walls were newspaper clippings.

(Continued on Page 2)



# HMB Church Loans Have Made Hundreds Of Buildings Possible

ATLANTA (BP) — Since it was given borrowing authority by the Southern Baptist Convention in 1967, the division of church loans at the Home Mission Board has generated an additional \$32.5 million for loans to churches.

That amount was passed early in 1980, according to Robert H. Kilgore, division director.

The division was given authority to find and borrow funds from commercial institutions and then to reloan to churches to obtain sites or to construct buildings.

"We have helped about 400 churches in the past 12 years with the borrowed funds by providing loans so they can have buildings in which to work," Kilgore said, adding most of the loans

were made to young churches in newer state Baptist conventions.

"We believe these churches would not have buildings were it not for the loans extended through the Home Mission Board," he said. "Many of them could not obtain loans through local financing channels when they started out."

Since the authority was granted, the division has borrowed from a low of \$1.5 million a year to a high of \$4.5 million.

"The interest rates we have paid across the past years to obtain the funds to help the churches build reflect the fluctuations of the economy," Kilgore said. "We began borrowing at six percent interest and it has now ranged upward to 11.25 percent."

"We have tried to loan the churches funds at the same interest rate we have had to pay to obtain the money, although we are currently paying 11.25 percent while charging the churches only 10 percent."

"When the convention gave us authority to borrow from commercial sources, it enabled us to help realize one of the goals of Bold Mission Thrust to give people an opportunity to have a place in which to worship," Bold Mission Thrust is the SBC plan to present the message of Christ to the entire world by the year 2000.

Kilgore said a goal of the Home Mission Board is to help Southern Baptists expand from the current 35,404 churches to more than 50,000 by the turn of the century.

## Missions Day Camp Training Offered Soon

Woman's Missionary Union and the Baptist Brotherhood are in the business of teaching missions. One avenue for summer fun a church can use to teach missions to children, 1-6 grades, is to provide a Missions Day Camp. The Missions Day Camp unit for 1980 is *Helping People Who Cannot Hear*.

On March 4, from 1-2:30, at Camp Garaywa near Clinton, church leaders will have an opportunity to learn about Missions Day Camping. Those attending will bring a brown bag lunch. Drinks will be provided.

Alleen Smith, author of the book, *Missions Day Camping Guidelines and Activities For A Day Camp*, will lead a period using the guide in basic day camp training.

Richard Alford, consultant and Language Missionary of the Cooperative Missions Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, will share the work of the Home Mission Board with the deaf and will provide resources and information about the new work with the deaf in our own state.

The *Missions Day Camping Guide* is priced at \$2.95 and the 1980 mission unit, *Helping People Who Cannot Hear*, (\$1.10) may be purchased from the Baptist Book Store.

Waudine Storey, GA consultant, will coordinate the day's activities.

## "Don't Debate How God Inspired Scriptures"

By Larry E. High  
WAKE FOREST, N. C. (BP) — "Southern Baptist should not allow themselves to become embroiled in debate as to how God inspired the Scriptures," declared the chairman of the committee which authored a revision of "The Baptist Faith and Message" adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in 1963.

During an address to the Conference on Biblical Authority at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Herschel H. Hobbs said the statement's prologue "clearly protects the conscience of the individual. Without this protection Southern Baptists would not have adopted the Baptist Faith and Message, a statement which sets forth certain definite doctrines that Baptists believe, cherish, and with which they have been closely identified."

The two-day conference was sponsored by the seminary "to celebrate a very positive and profound commitment to the absolute trustworthiness of the Bible," Southeastern President W. Randall Lolley explained.

"Disagreements among us seem to reside on how the Bible was inspired, not whether it is. Of course the Bible is inspired. The absolute trustworthiness and authority of the scriptures themselves is not debatable," Lolley said.

Conference speakers include Hobbs, pastor emeritus of First Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Okla., and former president of the Southern Baptist Convention; Donald E. Cook, professor of New Testament at Southeastern; and Lolley, who was pastor of First Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, N. C., before assuming the seminary's presidency in 1974.

No mention was made of the Heart of America Bible conferences being conducted in selected cities by biblical inerrancy advocates James Robison, W. A. Criswell, Paige Patterson and

others. At this point, one of the Heart of America conferences has been held at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., and another is scheduled at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

Although not mentioning those conferences by name, Hobbs did say, "No Baptists or group of such has any right... to endeavor to force upon others one's own particular interpretation of the Baptist Faith and Message."

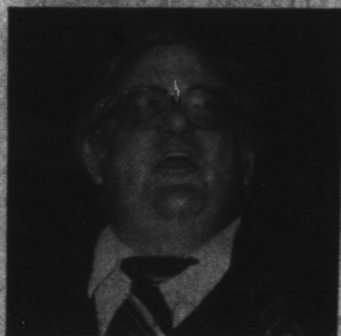
"To make such an effort is to violate its purpose," Hobbs said. "The statement declares the principle of the competency of the soul in religion. Ignore that and the statement becomes a creed, something which Baptists avoid," he added.

During an open forum with seminary students, faculty and visitors, Hobbs said, "Those that take their own interpretation and try to force it on other people are ignoring the statement's preamble altogether. They are making it a creed even though they might want to deny that. The end result is that such is an abuse of the use of the Baptist Faith and Message."

Hobbs also declared, "We do well to heed E. Y. Mullins (president of Southern Seminary, 1896-1928) when he reminds us that the most important matter is not the method but the product. The product is the divinely inspired Word of God."

"Neither the word inerrant nor infallible appears in the Bible. But the strongest statement about inerrancy is found in 2 Timothy 3:16. All Scripture is God-breathed. And God does not breathe error. Problems still remain to be solved. But in light of past experience, where seeming discrepancies exist you may rest in faith that they are the result of our incomplete knowledge — not upon errors in the original manuscripts of the Bible," Hobbs concluded.

## Musicians At The Ev/Bible Conference



Dan Hall



Tommy and Diane Winders



Marsha Betts



Bob Waldrop



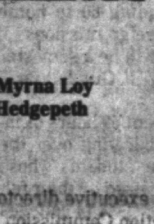
Church Choir, First Church, Columbus



Cyndi Grace



North Mississippi Singing Churchmen Ensemble



Myrna Loy Hedgepeth



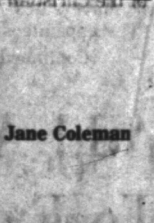
Jane Coleman



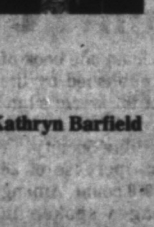
Potter's Clay Ensemble, First Baptist Church, Columbia



Kathryn Barfield



Tom Larrimore



Benny Jackson evangelist based in Memphis, led a special interest session on "The Extant and Evil of Sin," during the recent Evangelism/Bible Conference in Columbus. "Sin encompasses every fibre of the flesh and every sigh of the soul," Jackson told conferees.

## In Church Robbery Case

(Continued from Page 1)

concerning the robbery of the Fort Bayou Church.

All five men were arrested and are in the Jackson County Jail. Bond was set at \$20,000.

Sheriff John Ledbetter, Jackson County, gave advice to churchgoers. His suggestions were published in the Jackson County Baptist association's news bulletin:

1. Do not wear expensive jewelry to church. Leave it locked at home in a safe place.
2. Do not bring cash to the services beyond your tithes and offerings.
3. If robbers should come, do exactly as they request. They have every advantage and will kill anyone who would try to stop them.

4. Be observant. Make a mental note of shoes, colors, and types of clothing, weight, heights, sound of voice and any unusual characteristics.

5. Give any information that might be remotely related to a robbery to the Sheriff's Department.

Allen Webb, director of missions, Jackson County Association, added, "Since Fort Bayou Church has been robbed, pastors and laymen are concerned about preventive measures in their churches. First of all, do not manifest more concern about keeping robbers out than we do about getting the unsaved in. If we give too much attention to this situation, we may scare our people away from church."

## Area Meetings On Family Set Throughout State

Ten area meetings have been scheduled for February 28 as Mississippians participate in the 1980 White House Conference on Families.

Conference State Coordinator Edna Harbour of Jackson said two meetings will be held in each of the state's five congressional districts. Each meeting will be hosted by an area junior college.

Twenty delegates to the state conference will be selected by area participants at each meeting, Mrs. Harbour added. The state conference will be held March 15 at Hinds Junior College at Raymond.

The Mississippi meetings — and similar meetings being held nationwide — were called by President Carter last July when he said "we need to see what we can do, not simply as a government, but as a nation, to strengthen American families." The principal purpose of the conferences, the President stated, will be "to examine the strengths of American families, the difficulties they face, and the ways in which family life is affected by public policies."

The February 28 area meetings will be held at the following locations: the University of Mississippi Continuing Education Center at Oxford in cooperation with Northwest Mississippi Junior College; Northeast Mississippi Junior College; Booneville; Mississippi Delta Junior College, Moorhead; Golden Triangle Vocational-Technical Center (a Division of East Mississippi Junior College); Mayhew; Meridian Junior College; Meridian; Holmes Junior College; Goodman; Copiah-Lincoln Junior College; Wesson; Utica Junior College; Utica; Jones Junior College, Ellisville;

and at the Jefferson Davis Campus of Mississippi Gulf Coast Junior College in Gulfport.

Registration for meetings will get under way at 6:00 p.m., with the program beginning at 7:00 o'clock.

At the state conference on March 15, 21 delegates will be selected to attend the national White House Conference to be held in Minneapolis on June 19, 20, 21. Persons chosen as delegates to the state meeting must participate in the area meeting. Only those chosen as delegates at the area meetings will be eligible to participate in the delegate selection process on March 15. However, the public is urged to attend both the area and state meetings.

Mississippi Baptists serving on the committee which is organizing the meetings in the state include Owen Cooper of Yazoo City, vice chairman; Edna Harbour, of Jackson, state coordinator; Clark Hensley, of Jackson; and Jean Williams of Jackson.

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# First Church And Temple, Hattiesburg, Will Co-Sponsor C. S. Lewis Festival

The C. S. Lewis Festival Down South, four days of concentration on the works, mind, and life of writer-scholar C. S. Lewis, will be held in Hattiesburg Wednesday, Feb. 27, through Saturday, March 1.

Sponsored by the C. S. Lewis Festival Committee and participating churches of the area in cooperation with the University of Southern Mississippi, the Festival will feature some of this country's foremost authorities on Lewis, including Clyde S. Kilby, curator of Wheaton College's Marion Wade Collection, the center of research on Lewis in the United States; Corbin Carnell, Lewis scholar at the University of Florida; Thomas Howard of Gordon College, Wenham, Mass., lecturer and seminarist on C. S. Lewis; and Carolyn Keefe, of Westchester State College, Westchester, Penn., a reader of Lewis works.

Charles Moorman, vice president of academic affairs at University of Southern Mississippi, and James H. Sims, dean of the College of Liberal Arts at the university, Lewis scholars in their own right, also will participate as guest authorities.

"The sale of Lewis books is going through the roof," said one of his

American publishers recently, and since his death in 1963, sales of Lewis's diverse books have mounted to over a million copies a year in some 20 languages. One of his popular books for children, "The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe" was telecast serially on CBS last year, and became a 1979 Emmy award winner. This cartoon-type movie will be shown twice in Hattiesburg during the festival.

Because of the diversity of the appeal of Lewis writings, the Festival Committee has scheduled events for the four-day program to include a television panel show, informal and intimate gatherings in local homes, a seminar on the U.S.M. campus, lectures by the four special Festival guests in selected University, William Carey College, and secondary classrooms, participation in activities at the Speech and Hearing Building at the University, art and essay contests in area high schools, the film showing "Through Joy and Beyond," portraying the life of Lewis with Peter Ustinov, a book table of Lewis works on consignment at First Baptist Church. The public is invited to participate in all phases of the festival program except classroom lectures. There will be no charge for any event.

First on the Festival program agenda will be Kilby, speaking at First Baptist Church on Wednesday, Feb. 27, at 6:30 p.m. on "C. S. Lewis and Christianity."

On Thursday, February 28, at 10:00 a.m., the public is invited as studio audience for a live television production featuring a panel of the special festival guests, with Moorman as moderator. This will be held in the television studio at First Baptist Church and will be telecast over Channel 6 at that time and at later scheduled times to be announced.

Thursday afternoon and Friday morning, Kilby, Carnell, Howard, and Keefe, will be guest lecturers in selected classes at the University of Southern Mississippi, William Carey College, and secondary schools.

Festival attendees must register at the registration desk at First Baptist Church prior to 5:00 p.m. on Thursday in order to receive an assignment to one of four Hattiesburg homes where, beginning at 7:30, the guest authorities will participate in informal sessions of "Lewis talk" and question and answer periods.

The homes of Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Lucas, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Noonkester, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Montague,

and Mr. and Mrs. Ethan Moore will be available for these gatherings.

"The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe" will be shown at First Baptist Church on Friday afternoon, Feb. 29, at 1:15, and at Stout Hall on the U.S.M. campus on Saturday, March 1, at 1:30 p.m.

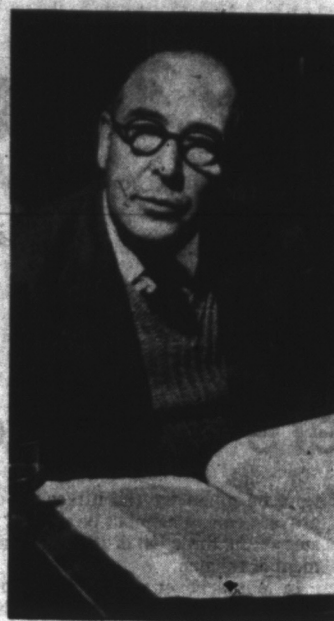
At 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Kilby, Carnell, Howard, and Keefe will participate in a seminar at Stout lecture hall on the U.S.M. campus.

At 9 a.m. on Saturday, March 1, activities pertaining to the title "C. S. Lewis and J. R. R. Tolkien, the Dynamic Duo" will get under way at the Speech and Hearing Building on the University campus.

Also on Saturday morning at 8:30, a film entitled "Through Joy and Beyond" starring Peter Ustinov, a portrayal of the life of Lewis in three segments, will be shown at Stout Hall on the U.S.M. campus.

At 1:30 that afternoon, "The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe" will again be shown, again in Stout Hall on the U.S.M. campus.

Programs and directions for locale of events may be obtained from Baptist Book Stores in Jackson, and from First Church and Temple Baptist in Hattiesburg, 39401.



C. S. Lewis

## 69 Students...

(Continued from Page 1)  
service will be announced after they have confirmed acceptance of their appointments.

Committee members included Linda Snell of Mississippi College, chairman; Beth Walker of Blue Mountain College; Jim Shoff of Mississippi State University; Ken Hall of University of Mississippi; David Grayson of Jones County Junior College; Mrs. Robbie Richardson, interim campus minister at Gulf Coast Junior College; and Louie Farmer, Jr., campus minister at University of Southern Mississippi. Bill Branch, state BSU president and a student at Mississippi State, served as an ex officio member. Lloyd Lunceford, on the staff of the student ministries department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, administers the students missions program for the department.

## Founder's Day Set For Mississippi Seminary

Founder's Day program for the Mississippi Baptist Seminary has been set for March 20. The event will be held at Mt. Nebo Missionary Baptist Church,

1245 Tunica Street, Jackson beginning at 6 p.m.

According to Richard Brogan, president of the Mississippi Baptist Seminary, the speaker will be L. Z. Blankinship, president of the South Mississippi Baptist State Convention. Blankinship is a graduate of the Mississippi Baptist Seminary. He also serves on the Board of Trustees for "The Great Adventure" which has trained more than 40,000 persons in church-related roles.

The Mississippi Baptist Seminary is a cooperative ministry of National and Southern Baptists. Trustees are elected from National and Southern Baptist Conventions. The Seminary has 26 extension centers throughout Mississippi, teaching more than 1,200 persons.

The Mississippi Baptist Seminary will occupy new administrative and library and classroom spaces on March 1. The 4,100 square foot facility will honor two past presidents, T. B. Brown and William P. Davis.

The public is invited to the Founder's Day activities.

Ruschlikon, Switzerland — The Summer Institute of Theological Education (SITE) will meet this year, June 1-28, on the campus of the Baptist Theological Seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland. SITE is a four-week study period that offers to pastors and laity the possibility to continue, begin, or complete their theological education. A mini-library of basic theological books as well as a correspondence course are available.



Hollis



Nelson



Anders



Kelly



Frank and Evelyn Stagg

## At Northminster, Jackson

## "A Woman's Place" Will Be Discussed At Meeting

The upcoming "Women in the Church" seminar is designed "to explore the biblical teaching as to woman's place in the church and the best use of her gifts."

The seminar, sponsored by the Christian Action Commission of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, will take place at Northminster Baptist Church in Jackson, Feb. 25-26.

Program personalities include Frank and Evelyn Stagg, Sarah Frances Anders, Marjorie Kelly, Martha Nelson, Harry Hollis, and Thelma Pearson.

Frank Stagg is senior professor of New Testament studies at Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky. Anders is chairperson of the Sociology department at Louisiana College, Pineville. Marjorie (Mrs. Earl) Kelly of Jackson is a former missionary to Palestine and a former vice president of William Carey College, Hattiesburg.

Carey College, Hattiesburg.

Martha Nelson (Mrs. Carl) of Pelahatchie is an author, lecturer and conference leader. Harry Hollis is director of family and special moral concerns for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, Nashville. And Thelma (Mrs. Glen) Pearson of Hattiesburg is a former professor at Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C. and former director of children's work at the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville.

Topics for discussion during the conference which begins at 1 p.m., Feb. 25, include "A Theology for Women and Men," "Jesus and Women," and "A Sketch of Women's Liberation Movements and Their Effect upon the Church."

Clark Hensley is executive director of the Christian Action Commission.

## Pastoral Care of the Ill

## Claypool Will Speak At Med Center On March 20

John R. Claypool, pastor of Northminster Church, Jackson, will be the chief resource person for the state's twentieth annual seminar on pastoral care of the ill. Sessions will be held in the Gilroy Unit of the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center on Thursday, March 20, beginning at 9:55 a.m. and concluding at 3 o'clock, with lunch available in the Med Center cafeteria. The annual event is sponsored by the Baptist Medical Center Chaplaincy Division and the Christian Action Commission, Mississippi Baptist Convention.

"Creative Living: Ministry to the Terminally Ill and Dying" will be the theme for the seminar. Ministers of all faiths are invited to attend.

Claypool is a member of the Christian Action Commission and chairman of The Christian Life Commission, Southern Baptist Convention. His publications include Stages: The Art of Living the Expected, a saga of life, and Tracks of a Fellow Struggler, which has helped hundreds come to grips with a personal theology and ministry in the loss of a loved one. He is a frequent contributor to many publications, including Review and Expositor, The Baptist Student, The Baptist Program and The Quarterly Review.

## Ole Miss Offers Religious Emphasis

Two topics — both Bible-related — will be covered in one lecture when Verna J. Dozier appears as The University of Mississippi's next Religious Emphasis Series speaker, March 4 at the University of Mississippi.

Her address, with its dual subjects of "The Story of the Bible" and "How to Teach/Study the Bible," is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. in the Ole Miss Student Union Ballroom.

She is a former vestryperson and senior warden of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Washington, D.C., her native city. She is also a retired assistant director of the District of Columbia Schools' Department of English.

That charity which longs to publish itself, ceases to be charity. — William Hutton



## Come and celebrate with the Woman's Missionary Union and Brotherhood Department

in a tour to Toronto, Canada (Baptist World Congress) and Mission Points (of the Northeast)

July 3-12, 1980

**COST:** \$895.00 per person, double occupancy. (This cost is based on the airfare from Jackson to Philadelphia, Toronto to Jackson, as of November 6, 1979 and is subject to increase)

**PAYMENTS:** \$100 deposit due no later than March 1, 1980

**INCLUDES:** roundtrip airfare, hotel accommodations, two lunches, insurance coverage while on bus, registration to the Baptist World Congress, tickets to Broadway musical "Annie", airline taxes, tours to Amish Country & Farm, Valley Forge Park, Baptist Work, Greenwich Village, Chinatown, Bowery, United Nations, Niagara Falls.

Yes, I would like to be a part of this tour.

Enclosed is my deposit

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Street and Number or P. O. Box \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: office \_\_\_\_\_ home \_\_\_\_\_

## Senior Adult Retreats Will Feature Myerses, Hensleys

Senior Adult Retreats I and II at Gulfshore Assembly, May 18-24 and May 28-30, will feature general conferences, led one week by Clark and Margaret Hensley and the second week by Charles and Bea Myers.

Under the overall heading of YOU DON'T RETIRE FROM... the leaders will discuss citizenship responsibilities, family relationships, and social and psychological needs.

Clark Hensley is executive director

of the Mississippi Christian Action Commission and Charles Myers is pastor of Alta Woods Church, Jackson.

Senior Adult Retreat III, August 18-22, will feature Guy and Lois Henderson, who will lead a general conference on the Biblical Foundations of Missions. They were formerly missionaries to Korea and later to the Philippines. He is now a consultant with the Stewardship Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

## Senior Adult Ministry Seminar Is Slated For April 21-23



Kerr

Horace L. Kerr and Gary Hauk will be resource persons for a Senior Adult Ministry Seminar to be held at the Baptist Building, Jackson, April 21-23.

Kerr and Hauk are staff persons in the Senior Adult Section of the Family Ministry Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tennessee. Kerr is Section Supervisor.

The seminar will center around the content of Kerr's recently released Broadman publication "How to Minister To Senior Adults in Your Church."

The Seminar is targeted to persons who now lead senior adult clubs or programs in a church setting or who contemplate organizing one. Senior adults are also encouraged to participate. Cost for the seminar is \$15 payable in advance.

Kermit S. King, Senior Adult Ministry Consultant with the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board will serve as seminar coordinator.

Persons desiring additional information should contact King at Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205. Tentative agenda is available upon request.

## Interfaith Witness Conference Dates Are Set

Dates for Interfaith Witness Awareness Conferences have been set in late February for Lebanon, George-Greene, and Simpson Associations.

The conferences offer information about a number of religions and cults so that Baptists may understand them and be able to offer a stronger witness to those of other faiths.

The Lebanon meeting will take place at Temple Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, Feb. 25-26, both at 7 p.m. Sessions will be held on the Unification Church, Jehovah's witnesses, the World Wide Church of God, Mormons, with one session on cults.

The George-Greene meeting will take place at First Baptist Church, Lucedale, on Feb. 28 at 7 p.m. Topics include the Unification Church, Jehovah's witnesses, and Mormons.

Simpson Association will hold its meeting at First Baptist Church, Magee, on Feb. 29. Topics include the Unification Church, Jehovah's witnesses, the World Wide Church of God, Mormons, and the Church of Christ-Pentecostalism.

These meetings are held by the associations in cooperation with the Interfaith Witness Department of the Home Mission Board and the Cooperative Missions department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

## Acteens Going To Queens' Court Should Pre-Register By March 3

Wayne Osborne, voice major at Delta State University, will lead the music for the Acteens Queens' Court March 7-9 at Camp Garaywa, Clinton. Registration deadline for the event is March 3.

Missionary speakers will be Gerald and Glenda Davis and James and Mary Slack, all missionaries to the Philippines, and Martha Haggan, missionary to the Choctaws in Mississippi.

The singer, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Osborne of Jackson, plays the piano and the guitar, writes songs, has a radio show called, "No Compromise," which plays contemporary Christian music (9 a.m. Sundays in Cleveland), and is a member of the Renaissance, a singing group from Delta State. He plans to go into the ministry. Previously he worked as a summer youth minister at Immanuel Church, Cleveland. Histwin



Osborne



Haggan

sister, Jayne, is on the girls basketball team at D.S.U.

Mrs. Haggan, a native of Crystal Springs, was a missionary nurse in Indonesia before her marriage in 1963. She and her husband, Dolton, live in Philadelphia, Miss. They have been missionaries to the Choctaws since 1966.

"The Kinsmen," eight high school age young men from First Church,

Gulfport, directed by Jimmy Cutrell, will entertain at Saturday night's recognition banquet, during Queens' Court.

The theme of the event will be "The Good News... is NEWS!" according to Diane (D.P.) Smith, Acteens consultant, Mississippi W.M.U.

Queens' Court is held annually by Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union for Acteens involved in Student, individual achievement plan. Those who may attend are Queens who have never before participated at Queens' Court and Queens who have achieved another level in Student since they last attended Queens' Court.

The cost will be \$22 per person. Check-in time will be Friday, March 7, at 5 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. The event will end Sunday, March 9, with lunch at 12 noon.



# The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

## Editorials

### Prayer in public schools . . .

## There is no complete answer

Almost all of my puzzling time recently has been spent puzzling over what to think about the issue of voluntary prayer in public schools.

I have reached a firm conclusion. It is this: There is no answer.

I know what the Supreme Court ruled in 1962. It did not in any sense of the word rule out voluntary prayer in public schools. What it said was that the administration (or the state) could not tell the students how their prayers should be structured nor could it force them to participate. I agree with that concept wholeheartedly.

But what a wild hodgepodge of interpretation has come out of that decision.

A great host of people have claimed that the court's decision eliminated voluntary prayer in public schools, and they have taken steps to have the decision set aside in some fashion. Others have claimed that the decision left the door open for prayer in the public schools.

In Massachusetts a new state law requires teachers to begin each day with the announcement that a volunteer can lead each class in prayer. This has to be a violation of the First Amendment to the U. S. Constitution, for it says that Congress shall make no laws regarding the establishment of a religion. The Fourteenth Amendment makes binding on state governments the same restrictions that bind the federal government. To require that

time be given for the utterance of prayers cannot help but be at least a step in the direction of the establishment of religion.

In Massachusetts those who don't want to participate may leave the classroom. Why not turn it around? Why not let those who want to pray leave the classroom. They could go into their separate areas as their religious convictions would dictate, and those who had no convictions could stay in the room.

Better yet, why not let each family engage in family prayer before the kids leave for school and let that provide the spiritual strength that each young person needs before he faces the day at school.

As most Mississippians know, the Mississippi Legislature has adopted legislation that would declare that there shall be no governing body that would have the power to prohibit voluntary prayer in the public school. The law should be moot, of course, for there has been no attempt on the part of the U. S. Supreme Court to deny such voluntary prayer. Some other bodies, however, with the power to inject their influence into public school affairs, have sought to enforce the theory that any sort of prayer in public schools violates the First Amendment.

So what seemed to be a simple and easily understood concept of dealing with prayer in public schools have been twisted and turned by many different kinds of interpretations until

there is no way of determining just what the answer is. Thus the conclusion drawn at the beginning of this piece — there is no answer.

Comes now, however, a effort spearheaded by U.S. Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina that would seek to take the issue of prayer in public schools out of the hands of the Supreme Court. Surely that is not the answer.

We have lived under our constitution for more than 200 years, and Baptists were instrumental in having added to the constitution the Bill of Rights, or the first 10 amendments. The First Amendment is the one that establishes freedom of religion.

My own conviction is that religion cannot and should not be taught in the public school. If the Baptists in a public school want to have a prayer meeting, I would be all for it. But somehow the Mormons who are attending that school must not be affected by that prayer meeting. For if I lived in Utah and the Mormons decided to have a prayer meeting at school, I would not want my children to be affected by it. If I lived in India, I would not want my children to be affected by a Hindu prayer meeting. If they have such.

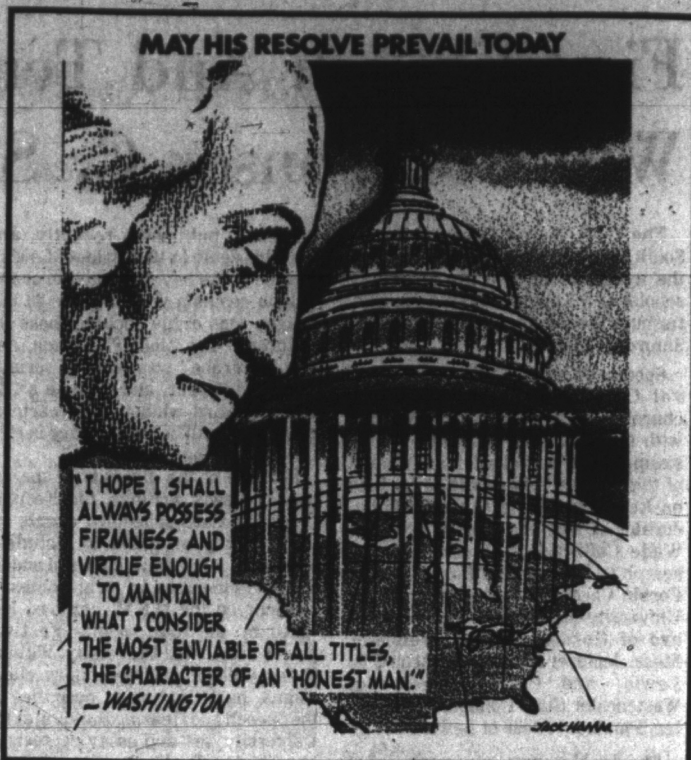
By the same token, would I not want the public schools teaching courses that would violate the religious concepts of my children. For instance, the declaration in the classroom that human life sprang from fishes would must keep it operating.

It is a ticklish issue, and there is no way an answer is going to be found that would satisfy everyone. Decisions affecting the First Amendment must not be divorced from the Supreme Court, however. Once any issue such as prayer in the public schools is taken out of the hands of the Supreme Court, the floodgates would be opened wide for a torrent of other legislation that would throw our concept of religion into chaos.

Our three-branch government concept was devised to protect us. We must keep it operating.

There were only 11 grades of public school during my days there, and I spent those 11 years in four different villages, towns, and cities. Not on one day of those 11 years was there a prayer uttered in any classroom in which I was in attendance. That, of course, was years before the 1962 Supreme Court ruling. I never thought much about it until the ruling was put into effect. Then as I looked back I realized that I attended public school with Jews, with Catholics, and with other people whose ideas of prayer did not match mine. I didn't realize that they were being protected (or was it I who was under the protection?), and I am not sure that the administration was trying to protect them. We just didn't pray.

Thank God, I was always in an area of strong churches. We took care of our prayer needs there and at home. That seemed to be sufficient. — DTM



## Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

### It Happened On The Way To Rio

The last time I limped into an airport with two heavy bags and umpteen souvenirs I said "Never again." So in November, 1978, I packed only one bag to take to Rio. Once, I remembered, Jacqueline Hewitt Allen told me she went to South America with just one dress, a navy nylon that she washed every night. And I thought of Jesus' words when He sent out the seventy: "Carry neither purse, nor scrip, nor shoes." I was going in order to do research for some writing I felt He wanted me to do.

When the woman at the check-in counter at the Jackson airport insisted I check my luggage all the way to Belém, Brazil, that sounded great. I'd never before checked a bag all the way to another country.

November 20 was cold in Jackson, cold in Miami, cold on the Varig 727, but I knew it would be hot in the tropics. I wore a wool skirt and velvet blazer and planned to change to lighter clothing in Belém.

Since I knew less than 50 words of Portuguese, I was a little nervous about going through customs. Debbie Trott Pierce had assured me that the airport was small, and I'd have no trouble. A couple of hours before daylight, a whole lot of American men (Exxon employees) and I got off the plane in Belém, a city at the mouth of the Amazon River. Heat hit us like a cloud of steam, and my coat came off right away.

The Americans got their luggage, went through customs, and disappeared. Debbie was right. There was nothing to going through customs. The inspector didn't open my suitcase, because I didn't have one to open. It was not on the plane.

Luan Lima, Brazilian airline representative who spoke English, said there would not be another plane from Miami for several days. "It would be best for us to send your bag back to Jackson when it gets here."

I told him I preferred to risk its being sent on to Rio. (I planned to stop at Recife and Campina Grande before going further south.)

"Address in Rio?" he asked. My address book was in the suitcase. For some reason, though, I had in my purse the address of the Woman's Training School in Rio. I planned in Rio to visit

Dorine Hawkins Stewart, a former director of the Training School who no longer worked there. I gave the man that address.

I thought of something else to worry about. How would I know when the Portuguese announcer said my plane was ready to load and depart? But the courteous Luan Lima introduced me to a stewardess. She spoke little English, but she pointed out the exact plane I was to board, and escorted me to the gate when it was time to go.

Midday in Recife was oven-like. Missionaries Edd and Freda Trott at the airport asked, "Why do you have a coat? Where is your suitcase?" We went by the home of Missionaries David and Glenda Miller. She in a cool summery dress exclaimed, "A wool skirt! Aren't you hot?" But she served water. Never, I know, has a cup of cold water offered in His name been more appreciated.

The missionaries exchanged some wild lost luggage tales, and shook their heads as if to say, "gone for good."

Freda and I shopped at a variety store in Recife and I bought a sort of excuse for a dress for \$5, something like a very long T-shirt. Freda said if she altered it there and there I might wear it around the house.

Then we drove onto the train house at Campina Grande, where I would visit them for two or three days. I slept in Freda's gown, wore her house slippers, and used her cleansing cream. But I did actually have a toothbrush in my purse. Next day I wore Freda's grey skirt and a red blouse that belonged to Louise Brandt, wife of Edd's cousin, a Presbyterian missionary in Campina Grande. We went to prayer meeting at the Liberty Baptist Church.

The second day, for Thanksgiving dinner, I wore my \$5 dress. Then I decided to try to cash \$200 in travelers' checks to buy more clothes. (If I'd known how complicated that decision would be, I would not have made it.) Upstairs in the bank, Edd identified me; I showed my passport; three employees processed my application. Then Edd and I descended to the bank vault, past two armed guards, and through barred doors. I received the money from a clerk behind a second set of bars.

Freda called Dorine to tell her the time of my plane's arrival in Rio. Dorine answered, "By the way, tell Anne her suitcase is here, in my guest bedroom." How it got there so fast, I don't know. When the airline delivered it to the Training School, no one there knew me. But Sophia Nichols, missionary friend of Dorine's who works next door to the Training School, just happened to hear the inquiries of the deliveryman, and knowing that my arrival was expected, directed him and the suitcase to Dorine's house.

Haydee and David Gomes met me at the Rio airport, asking, "Why are you wearing winter clothing? Where is your bag?" I told them, "The Lord sent it on ahead." Never once, from Jackson to that bedroom on the Rua Uruguai, did I once have to lift that bag! Can you imagine that?

Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. . . (Luke 12:6-7a).

## In Canada, 90 Give \$9,400 To Lottie Moon

PORTLAND, Ore. (BP) — A small, rural church in the northwest corner of Alberta, Canada, "has given an astounding \$9,400 to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions," according to Steve Langston, business manager for the Northwest Baptist Convention.

Worsley Baptist Church, with a membership of about 90, according to pastor Keith Hale, also gave \$5,023 to the annual Southern Baptist offering in 1978.

### Guest Opinion . . .

## Building Bridges

Guy Henderson  
Consultant, Department of  
Stewardship and  
Cooperative Program Promotion

Mr. Nelson Boswell tells of a bridge over the Colorado River that is a quarter of a mile high. Prior to building the bridge, the traffic had to go miles around the high gorge. It was inconvenient and took hours of extra time. Someone envisioned a bridge and through cooperation and hard work, it became a reality. Now when you are traveling this way, there is no delay. The high bridge speeds you across to the other side in comfort and safety.

Dr. Donald A. McGavran wrote a book on mission methods entitled "The Bridges of God" in which he spoke of the ways that people came to Christ. There is the "bond of relationship" bridge — Jews leading Jews to Christ, and Romans leading Romans; the social bridge, or the kindred-occupation bridge; and many other bridges that help people across the dark canyons of life.

Each generation must establish these bridges if we are to reach others for Christ. We have some excellent bridge-builders in our state. Some ladies go to Barbados to teach sewing, and these 20th century Dorcas leave a bridge over which others can pass. A group of carpenters from south Mississippi help build a church building in the northwest, but more than a church is built — they leave a bridge. A pastor comforts a family in an hour of bereavement and later leads all the children to know Christ; an R.A. counselor works diligently with the youth of our state summer after summer and now he hears from them as Christian lawyers, businessmen and missionaries. What mighty builders have ye!

Some bridges are built overnight, and others may take twenty years.

Tears, kind words, good deeds and a loving concern make the best material for bridge building. Ask the people of Jackson who were flooded in the Easter downpour. Unseen bridges were established all over the city and state.

Bridges are built from one point to another for a purpose. There is a river, a canyon, or a swamp to span. It takes an effort on the part of the builder. The lack of a bridge brings delay, inconvenience, and lost opportunities. Bridges are needed today between pa-

rents and children, husbands and wives, employer and employee, urban and rural areas, and government and private citizens. Vision, concern, and effort can establish bridges to help us over the dark canyons.

"We need a bridge to the world. Rivers of doubt, canyons of concern, and swamps of indifference keep us divided. We have 3,000 missionaries out there as bridge builders — but they need someone here to help. They need prayer supports, girders of generous

giving, and broad beams of love manifested in daily concern if they are to be effective. There is a way in which each person and every church can have a part in this ministry. For more than fifty years the Cooperative Program has been Southern Baptists' bridge to the world. It now reaches 96 countries. Every Sunday as you support your local church budget, you can give knowing that part of your offering will be "bridge building" all week. It's a good bridge.

## Letters To The Editor

### Abstinence

Editor:  
Amen to Foy Valentine's article, "A Case for Abstinence."  
Harry Barnes, Pastor  
Macedonia Baptist Church  
Brookhaven, MS.

### The Abortion Issue

Editor:  
In regards to an article in your paper dated Jan. 24, by Stan Haste, concerning payments to the poor for abortion, I wish to disagree very much with the opinion of Mr. Wood as expressed in it. First, it seems to be passed off as only an opinion of a certain religious group of people, namely, Roman Catholics. In regards to this, may I state that every major denomination, including our own, has held this same opinion consistently down through the years, (that is, that abortion is wrong). Only very recently have some of our people, and perhaps leaders, thought otherwise. It has long been considered murder when done deliberately and premeditated. A very many Baptists hold this opinion today and are thoroughly convinced that the Bible teaches the same. We hold that any law concerning this thing, especially those restricting the Government from paying for it to be done, is no different from any other law concerning the things found in the Bible. Now basically, the issues of murder, theft, perjury, and various other corruptions are theological issues, yet we feel that our nation not only has the right, but also the responsibility, to control such things. For years, laws concerning abortion have been on the books, many making it a crime, yet it has never been an issue that these laws violated our religious liberty. Perhaps we are confusing liberty with license.

I believe it is wrong for the nation to take the tax money from its citizens and freely use it on a thing that many, even if they are Roman Catholics, feel is a grave sin before God. The issue is, do we as taxpayers take part of our money and aid people in an issue that we believe to be very much contrary to the commandments of God just because they are poor? Or are we any freer to aid and abet any such act on the grounds that it will interfere

with their religious freedom?  
Every Catholic knows where his church stands. Every Baptist knew where his denomination stood a few years ago. We say that the Bible is our sole rule of authority. The Bible does not change. God does not change. Something is wrong. Yet we are told that everything is all right. We are told that we are doing many wonderful works in the name of the Lord. Will someone please offer an explanation?  
John Bonner  
Amory

### On Abortion

Editor:  
For years I have taken great pride with fellow Southern Baptists in our stand on separation of church and state and support wholeheartedly the First Amendment. But I hope that we will not let this "pride" blind us to the greater fundamental principle of the sanctity of human life.

I refer to the Baptist Record article of Jan. 24, "Government Plans Appeal of Abortion Law Ruling" and the apparent "stand" of James C. Wood Jr., executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. To take a stand for any woman's right, rich or poor, on the basis of religious freedom to quietly murder an unwanted baby is hardly in the best interest of Baptists or anyone else. One might just as easily support the "free exercise of conscience" in burning witches at the stake, performing a death dance for the elderly, exterminating Jews, blacks, whites, maimed or retarded children — or offering unwanted fetuses on altar of Baal! These religions have rights, but certainly not to involve my tax money in the exterminating of human beings. I wish to refuse to finance this strange quirk in a poor woman's "religious" conviction, namely the sacrifice of an infant on the altar of convenience or expediency.

Yes, we must support the guarantees of the First Amendment of all citizens, but what good have we done if we deny the same citizen the right to LIFE, in its very defense. I would like to remind Mr. Wood and others of his persuasion that it was just such a "stand" by many in the German Reformed church that paved the way for the Hitler Holocaust. Of that, a well known theologian has said, "It all

began with the idea there was one life not worthy of being live."

If Mr. Haste indeed feels differently on abortion from what this article implies he feels, it is extremely poor journalism. In my view this article appears to be a blatant Southern Baptist endorsement of federally subsidized abortions. I am offended.

Paul Tapp  
Minister of Music and Youth  
Daniel Memorial Church  
Jackson

## Book Reviews

A COUNTRY BOY USED BY THE LORD by Otis Webster Yates (Vantage Press, p. 182, \$5.95) This is the interesting autobiography of O. W. Yates, pastor and Christian educator. Yates was born in North Carolina, in 1888 and accepted the call to preach in 1909. At Southern Seminary he was teaching fellow to W. O. Carver in the Missions Department. An earlier relative of his, Matthew T. Yates, was a missionary to China. O. W. Yates' teaching career led him to Bethel College, Ouachita Baptist University, and Georgetown College. Then the Central Baptist Hospital in Lexington, Ky. asked him to become executive secretary and to raise funds for a new hospital. On his retirement at age 63 he answered a call to become pastor of Rosemont Church, Lexington, where he served 14 years. After a second retirement, he is still active at age 89, preaching and counseling. This story holds an especial interest for Mississippians in that Yates married Elizabeth Draughon on May 12, 1964. (His first wife died in 1963). Miss Draughon had worked in Mississippi as editorial assistant for the Baptist Record.

TO TEACH A CHILD by Ida Nelle Hollaway (Broadman Press, 1978, 152 pp. \$3.95) This book is exactly what the by-line on the title states: "A study in accountability . . . for parents, teachers, and others who teach children." On the basis of her former works, I expected something good when I received my copy, and I was not disappointed. She has something for the parent, for the teacher in both public school and Sunday School, and for psychologists interested in children.

Furthermore, the book is theologically or biblically sound. Maintaining that the most important teachers are the parents in the home, the author disavows the myth that schools should take over the entire educational process. Among my favorite chapters were "Doing Nothing Is Teaching Too" and the contrasting chapter "Scars Run Deep," which involves the parents doing too much instead of too little. The chapter "Seeing Them Through to Maturity" contains many practical suggestions. The book is sprinkled with interesting and illuminating experiences. Parents, Sunday School teachers and pastors should find this book helpful in understanding their own relationships to children. — Clark Hensley.

ALL THE TREES AND WOODY PLANTS OF THE BIBLE by David A. Anderson (Word Books, \$10.95, 294 pp.) The author is a professional forester who has traveled in Bible lands and done a lot of research concerning the trees and woody plants of ancient times. The chapter, "Biblical References to Trees," alphabetically lists trees named in the Bible, discusses their characteristics. Another chapter gives information about workers in wood. "Tree Gardens" and "Tree Superstitions" are among other chapter titles. A general index, a Scripture index, and many photographs enhance the book's value. Answers to hundreds of questions about everyday life in Bible times are given in this attractive volume. For instance, how could people find wood for a structure as big as Noah's Ark? where did the frankincense and myrrh come from that were presented at Jesus' birth?



# Moss Point Baptists Match Talents With Community Needs

(Continued from Page 1)

viction that the Lord expects us to do more than just come to church. People are hurting out there. We should not sit and wait for them to come to us, but we should seek out places and people we can help. Ask: What can I do? What are my talents? What are my resources? Where does the Lord want me? The possibilities are limitless!"

## Grabbed Opportunity

When the Youth Court called the church and asked for a Sunday School teacher, Faggard grabbed the opportunity. For his lessons he uses two pamphlets, "How to Have a Full and Meaningful Life" (from the Sunday School Board, Nashville) and "Steps to Peace With God" (from the Billy Graham Association, Minneapolis), plus the Bible. His class of 10 to 15, including boys and girls, is different from one Sunday to the next, for none of them stay at the Detention Center longer than a month. Often he gives them Bibles or Scripture portions from the American Bible Society. Faggard said, "I get more participation in this Bible class than with any young people I have ever taught. They are responsive. They ask questions. They are willing to read from the Bible. Most seem to have the attitude, 'I am in trouble, and I know I need help,' and are search-

ing for answers and comfort in the Bible."

Faggard's brother, C. D., teaches the Bible lesson on Sunday mornings at the Stevens Alcohol Rehabilitation Center. The Center has a capacity of 30. Usually about 15 men and women — some old, some middle-aged, some young and attractive — gather in the living room for Sunday School. Usually a musician accompanies Faggard to present some kind of special before the lesson.

At the Restitution Center, Mississippi Department of Corrections, Eddie Holt leads Bible study twice a month. Young men at the Restitution Center (average age, 21) are first offenders, or are guilty of non-violent crimes. They must work to earn money to pay their fines. Every Monday night Holt uses the bus to take a load of 30 or 31 young men to the church gym for basketball, skating, or exercise on the trampoline.

At Christmas the church sponsored a party for these young men from the Restitution Center, and gave a gift to each of 32 of them. "These were the only Christmas presents some of them got," Norris Faggard explained. "Many find that when they have gotten into trouble their families have deserted them, so they are alone and lonely, especially at Christmas." Bibles and Scripture

selections from the American Bible Society are given to youths at the Restitution Center, as well as to those in the Center for alcoholics. The Scriptures have been well received by the troubled young people, Faggard said.

In pointing out results of the church's efforts, Pastor Bobby Perry said that at least one profession of faith has been recorded at the Youth Court, three at the Restitution Center, and two at the Seamen's Center in Pascagoula.

At the Seamen's Center, Moss Point volunteers are in charge at least three nights each month, under direction of Mrs. Sue Perry. In December they boarded a ship for a Christmas service. The next day 23 Filipino crewmen came to the church from that ship and the captain, a German, ate lunch with the Perrys.

Another ministry is that of tutoring children who are slow learners. Richard Handley is doing his internship in social work at the Singing River Mental Health Center. Through the Center he has located children in need of the tutoring program.

At Singing River Hospital Bob Sandburg regularly teaches the Bible lesson to those in the extended care section. Bob Taylor teaches a Bible lesson each week at the Plaza Nursing Center. Bob Landruth leads the music for the nursing home and hospital groups.

A telecare ministry for senior citizens has been instituted at the church. Young adult families have been matched with senior adults. Regular telephone calls are made to check on the condition and needs of each other. The young adults are planning to help to take care of the senior adults assigned to them — call them, rake their yards or find someone who will, take them to the grocery store, etc. Handley said he hopes it will be possible for the church to buy a van to take senior adults to the grocery store and to the doctor. He said each senior adult will also be assigned a family for whom he or she can be an advocate.

A visitation program, in which young people visit the aged and shut-in, is in full swing. Norris Faggard stated that young people have been doing this for four years, usually Wednesdays at 5:30, and that some have over 300 visitation hours to their credit. Twenty individual shut-ins are on the visitation list, as well as nursing homes.

Three persons in the church are teaching a literacy course — one to one. Mrs. Perry, one of the three, is teaching a black Baptist preacher to read. Formerly she taught a German woman who had married an American. (The woman saw the literacy course at which the church ran in a daily paper.) Soon the church plans to start a mission at a mobile home park.

"Our volunteers are trying to meet the needs of the community," Handley said, "that are not already being met by some other church or agency." He pointed out that as the government cuts budgets for welfare and other social services, there will be more need than ever for the church to get involved in helping. "Actually, it was the church's responsibility all along," he said.



FIRST CHURCH, MOSS POINT youths visited Miss Belle Wilson, 84, on a Sunday afternoon. Bob Sandburg played the guitar while Jeannie Forrester led group singing. Paige Perkins and Jamie Allbritton read Scripture selections. Miss Wilson, a retired railroad employee, formerly worked as dining room hostess on trains out of New York. She is a Mississippi native, and a member of First, Moss Point.

# What Can Happen With The Annie Armstrong Offering

ATLANTA, Ga. — Salary increases to help home missionaries resist the impact of inflation in 1980 will consume about \$1.5 million from the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

"If we are not able to provide salary increases, the missionaries who are serving on the field actually are taking salary reductions," said William G. Tanner, executive director-treasurer of the Home Mission Board.

The Annie Armstrong offering will be used to place new missionaries on the home mission field and provide support for their work, Tanner said. Allocations of the offering will prom-

ote work in evangelism, church extension, language missions, Christian Social Ministries and other programs of the Home Mission Board.

Woman's Missionary Union (WMU), auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention, promotes the annual offering in support of the work of the Home Mission Board. The offering is the climax of the Week of Prayer for Home Missions, March 2-9.

The home mission offering provides more than half the annual budget of the Home Mission Board. The goal for the 1980 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is \$15.5 million. The Annie Armstrong offering and funds from the Cooperative Program will provide most of the \$34 million budget adopted by the Home Mission Board.

The largest allocation in the 1980 offering is for language missions. The \$3.8 million allocation will provide and support home missionaries to Indian, Spanish, French, Slavic, Portuguese, Italian, Japanese, Chinese, and other people of different languages in the United States. The allocation will help in work with internationals and refugee relief.

Church extension has an allocation of \$2.4 million, second largest, in the 1980 home missions offering. The allocation will help churches in areas of new work for Southern Baptists to have full-time pastors.

The third largest allocation of the 1980 Annie Armstrong offering will provide \$1.7 million to Christian Social Ministries. The allocation will help support Christian workers in Baptist Centers and week-day ministries, disaster relief, work with the blind, and literacy work.

Every year the offering has an allocation of \$860,000 in the 1980 Annie Armstrong offering.

The offering allocations for church extension, evangelism and other

ministries will support the home missions thrust in the next two years into counties that lack a strong gospel witness.

The Annie Armstrong offering will bring to life other emphases of the Home Mission Board in the next two years. Major attention will be given to presenting the gospel and forming churches in the Energy Corridor, the Rocky Mountain region; the Sun Belt, the warm Southern States; and the sprawling urban areas of the nation.

Emphasis simultaneously will be on training resource leaders to prepare lay persons to present a Christian witness. The trained lay persons will train other Baptists until thousands of Southern Baptists throughout the nation are prepared to share their faith in Jesus Christ.

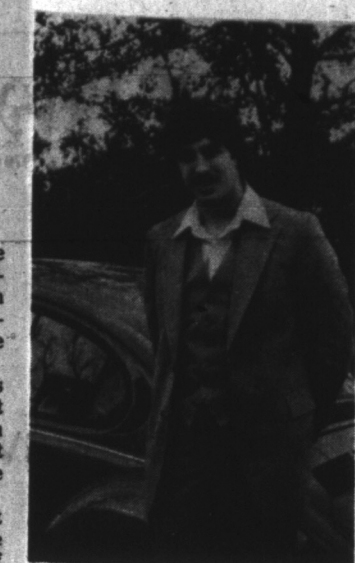
## New Ministry

# N. O. Chaplains Offer To Visit Mississippians In N.O. Hospitals

The Southern Baptist Hospital in New Orleans and the Greater New Orleans Baptist Association are sponsoring a new ministry, to visit New Orleans hospital patients who live outside the city or outside the state.

Hospitals now included in this service are Touro, St. Charles General, Ochsner's, Tulane Medical Center, and Southern Baptist Hospital. Others may be included later, according to Paul W. Stevens, chaplain at Southern Baptist Hospital and vice president for student affairs at New Orleans Seminary.

Chaplains will regularly go to these hospitals, where information will be made available to them concerning



RICHARD HANDLEY coordinates the varied outreach ministries of First Church, Moss Point. His red Volkswagen stays on the road a lot as Handley drives from one point of activity to another.

# Prayer For TV Studio Answered In A Hurry

NITEROI, Brazil (BP) — When they prayed, they didn't expect an answer quite so soon.

At the Niteroi First Baptist Church recently, Nilson Fanini, a well-known Brazilian evangelist, joined in earnest prayer with two volunteers from Memphis, Tenn., David Ripley and Shad Williams.

The men were asking God to move the heart of someone to provide \$100,000 to equip a television studio for production of Fanini's evangelistic broadcasts.

Fanini, president of the Brazilian Baptist Convention's executive committee, is heard and seen regularly on 74 television stations and 18 radio stations in 200 Brazilian cities and five surrounding countries. But the tremendous cost of studio production time had become a major obstacle.

"As we rose from our knees," Fanini recalls about the prayer session, "my secretary came in and handed me a letter." It contained the news that Baptist Temple Church, Houston, Texas, would provide the money needed for the television and radio production facilities.

"Immediately we knelt again to thank God," said Fanini. "David and Shad had to pray because I was too overcome with emotion to speak."

In Houston, Baptist Temple pastor Roy Ladd said that he first heard of the Brazilian evangelist's need when Fanini addressed last fall's meeting of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

# American Fruitcake Gets Missionary On Television

SAPPORO, Japan (BP) — Beverly O'Reagan never dreamed her fruitcake recipe would lead to frequent television appearances in Japan.

She was just trying to be neighborly when she took a fruitcake to some friends at the American Consulate in Sapporo, Japan, where she and her husband Dan were stationed as Southern Baptist missionaries. Those friends were among many in Sapporo who received an O'Reagan fruitcake that year, but that gift has led to nationwide witnessing opportunities.

It all started when the guest chef for a popular Japanese program similar to NBC's "Today Show," called in sick. Frantically, the producers called the American Consulate with a request for "An American fruitcake cook."

When Beverly answered her phone that morning, she was in the middle of a conversational English class she taught to several Japanese women. As it happened, she had invited them to stay after the lesson that day for an American-style luncheon. The studio needed her there at 1 p.m. Could she make it?

"I'll be there as near one o'clock as possible," she promised.

After the last lady left, she grabbed up the ingredients and a cake which she'd pulled from the freezer right after the phone call. There was no time to fix her hair or put on a special dress. There was barely time to get made up before she was on television—live.

Things must have gone well because the station invited her to come back as often as she could. Guest appearances have ranged from other cooking sessions to a panel discussion of different cultures. She has demonstrated an American potato peeler, a can opener, how she cuts up things with a knife, and how Americans count on their fingers — which is different from the Japanese way. A photographer has taken pictures of her house — showing how Americans decorate and what kitchen appliances they used.

But whatever the program's format, she says, "I have attempted to always keep quietly before me the challenge of bearing a positive witness for Christ."

Several good opportunities have come for her to witness on the program. Once the host said he knew nothing about Christianity and asked how someone became a Christian.

Another time she was on TV with some Buddhist monks who had described a case of divine healing. The host asked her if she believed in divine healing. "Of course, I do," she answered emphatically. To explain she told how her husband more than five years earlier had been diagnosed as having cancer and only six months to live. Soon they learned that missionary friends of all denominations and friends around the world were praying for Dan to be healed. He didn't die.

Their work in Sapporo has continued, and Beverly has added another responsibility — making the most of every opportunity to witness for Christ on national television.

(Mrs. O'Reagan, was born in Jennings, La., and grew up in Lake Arthur. Her husband Dan is a native of Galveston, Texas.)

# New Faculty Members Sign Faith And Message Statement

By Barbara Little  
KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP) — Annual convocation ceremonies at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here were highlighted by the formal signing of the seminary's Articles of Faith by four new faculty members and an address by George Beasley, Murray of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Preceding the address by Beasley-Murray, who predicted that "this decade will see the debate on the Christology intensify even more," seminary president Milton Ferguson formally welcomed new faculty members by noting that "Baptist confessions of faith serve as a 'group testimony,' focusing on those common affirmations which bring us together as Baptists."

Ferguson also declared that the confession — Southern Baptists' 1963 statement of Baptist Faith and Message — was adopted to provide those who in the seminary faculty "a sense of common direction and purpose."

He prefaced his remarks by saying, "Baptists historically are a fiercely independent people whose heritage is rooted in the affirmation that no one stands between God and the individual conscience."

"The sole authority for Baptists is the ultimate Word of God — Jesus Christ revealed through the Scriptures as they are energized by the power and presence of the Holy Spirit."

Ferguson reminded the group that although the "Baptist Faith and Message statement is not to be regarded as

a formal creed, it does function as a positive affirmation of those historic Christian beliefs which Southern Baptists continue to affirm."

# O'Shields Moves To N. Carolina

RALEIGH, N. C. (BP) — Claud O'Shields, former eastern representative for the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, has joined the North Carolina Baptist Convention staff as a part-time consultant in radio and TV.

O'Shields will help churches and associations in North Carolina develop radio and TV ministries, promote the convention's video tape program, and coordinate a joint evangelistic campaign media emphasis.

While working for the commission, 1965-79, O'Shields served conventions and churches in all states east of the Mississippi River as a liaison between the denomination and the broadcast industry. He also developed communications and public relations workshops for state conventions in the area.

Prior to that, he was manager of a Wilmington (N.C.) television station, sales manager of an area radio station, and classified advertising manager for the Wilmington newspaper. He is a resident of Surf City, N. C.

# Mrs. Chatham Will Appear At Broadmoor

Betty Jean Chatham, pianist, composer, and recording artist, will appear at Broadmoor Church, Jackson, Sunday morning, Feb. 24, as a part of the regular worship services at 8:15 and 10:50 a.m.

Mrs. Chatham has given over 1000 concerts in colleges, churches and crusades, civic clubs and conventions. She has also given concerts for the U.S. Air Force in the United States and the Philippines. Concert tours have also taken her to Europe, East Africa and the Orient.

A graduate of Georgetown College, she holds a master's in Music degree from the University of Louisville School of Music. Wife of Donald Chatham, M. D., she spends two months of each year giving lessons and the other ten months as homemaker to their five children.

Interested persons are invited to attend. David R. Grant is pastor.

# Clinton Churches Hold Skate-A-Thon For World Hunger

Four Baptist Churches in Clinton sponsored a skate-a-thon Feb. 3 for world hunger. Churches involved in the Sunday afternoon event were Wildwood, Northside, First Baptist, and Morrison Heights. At least 50 young people participated, and raised \$332.40 in the two-hour skate. Jerry Gentry, youth director at Northside is shown with the money collected for world hunger.

## 5 GREAT NIGHTS IN MISSISSIPPI

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28  
GULFPORT  
First Baptist Church  
2105 14th Street  
7 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 29  
PONTOTOC  
South Pontotoc High School  
South Pontotoc Community Road  
7 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 28  
COLUMBUS  
City Auditorium  
7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 31  
VICKSBURG  
City Auditorium  
7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12  
CLARKSDALE  
City Auditorium  
7:30 p.m.





The gifts to State Missions Week of Prayer (Margaret Lackey) are listed as received from September 1, 1979 through January 31, 1980 with 913 churches participating. At that time total gifts amounted to \$286,782.89.

[illegible]

# Missionary News

Caixa 07-1185, 70000 Brasilia, DF, Brazil). The Foreign Mission Board's field representative for Brazil, he is a native of Blue Springs, Miss.

Felix and Waldine Greer, missionaries to Liberia, have arrived at the field (address: P. O. Box 1416, Monrovia, Liberia). He was born in New Orleans and lived in Vicksburg and Jackson while growing up. She is from Jackson. Before their appointment in 1979 he was pastor of First Church, Vanceave.

If you your lips would keep from slips, five things observe with care; to whom you speak, of whom you treat, and how, and when, and where. — W. E. Norris — Thirby Hall



# Missionaries On Furlough

Missionaries on furlough in Mississippi are Jerry and Glenda White, Korea, 715 East Northside Drive, Jackson; Wayne and Florence Frederick, Guadeloupe, 3331 Old Canton Road, Jackson; James and Mary Slack, Philippines, 407 N. 38th St., Hattiesburg; Payton and Helen Myers, Nigeria, Rt. 1, Box 323, West Point; Paul and Brenda Lee, Spain, Box 1324, Starkville; Errol and Mary

# Hawkins Enters Evangelism

J. Lester Hawkins has resigned the pastorate of the Comite Baptist Church in Baton Rouge, La. to enter fulltime evangelism.



Hawkins and family are natives of Mississippi. He has been pastor of Pricedale, Pleasant Home, Laurel, and Trinity, Biloxi. He has led numerous revival meetings in Mississippi.

Mrs. Hawkins, the former Mary Evelyn Pridden (daughter of Pastor Ray Pridden, Friendship, McComb) is an accomplished soloist. The children, Mike and Lisa, are also featured in special services.

The Hawkins will make their home in the Baton Rouge area. They have formed Family Life Ministries and will conduct Christian Family Seminars in addition to revivals and concerts. The seminars are a three-phase program designed to be a strengthening influence for families and a building back process for broken homes.

The Hawkins family can be reached by phone at 504-261-5639.

Simmons, Spain, 100 Georgia Ave., Hattiesburg; Gerald and Glenda Davis, Philippines, 520 Magazine St., Tupelo; Donald and Jo Redmon, Costa Rica, 2334 Coronet Place, Jackson; James and Guinevere Young, Bangladesh, 1625 Easy St., Yazoo City; Jimmy and Joan Barrentine, Paraguay, Box 68, Crystal Springs; Hal and Lou Ann Lee, France, Box 942, Clinton; Betty Hart, Chile, Box 1, Sandy Hook; John and Clara Schoolar, Southwest Africa, 2423 Brandon Avenue, Jackson; Mary Frank Kirkpatrick, Liberia, Box 94, Noxapater.

Dorothy Latham, Equatorial Brazil, will arrive in Mississippi this month. Retired missionaries living in the state are: Mrs. Hendon Harris, China, c/o Inglewood Manor Home, 1900 Chadwick Drive, Jackson 39204; Mrs. D. P. Appleby, Brazil; 127 East Academy, Canton; Cecil and Marie Roberson, Nigeria, 3417 Poplar Springs Drive, Meridian; Auris Pender, Singapore, 520 S. Natchez St., Box 212, Kosciusko; Edythe Montroy, Nigeria, 241 Sage Ave., Drew; and Georgia Mae Ogburn, Chile, 2007-A 24th Ave., Meridian.

# Revival Dates

Carterville Church, Petal: special worship services Feb. 24-27; by the Cruse Family, a family of ten people who communicate through contemporary gospel music sound that manifests itself in a variety of solo, group, and instrumental styles.

The Cruse Family has won two Dove Awards—the highest award in Gospel Music, and “Best Contemporary Album” of 1978. They have appeared in concert throughout the United States and Canada.

They have recorded 14 long playing albums in the past ten years.



The presentation was made during the noonday service at which Pam spoke to the students about her BSU work at UC. The check was presented by Kathy Bates (left), Missions Chairman. Looking on is John Sumner, BSU Director at Jones.

# Jones Students Lend Support To Ohio BSU

The Baptist Student Union of Jones Junior College recently presented \$100 to the BSU of the University of Cincinnati as a mission endeavor to help support this young work in Ohio. Receiving the check is Pam Martin (center), US-2 worker and director of the Cincinnati BSU.

Since the Jones BSU adopted the Cincinnati BSU as a mission project, they have sent financial support from time to time. They also purchased a 1971 Chevrolet for Pam to use in her work with the BSU students at UC.

# Charles Everitt Retires; Moves To Illinois

Charles Everitt resigned the pastorate of Lakeview Church, Leland, effective Dec. 31, 1979, in order to go into semi-retirement. He and his wife have moved to a home they bought several years ago at 700 West Fayette Avenue, Effingham, Ill. 62401.

Everitt, a native of Pelahatchie, is a graduate of Mississippi State University and Northwestern Seminary.

He has been pastor and/or associational missionary for 39 years. In Mississippi he served as pastor of Courtland, Paynes, and Peach Creek churches, in addition to Lakeview. He has been director of missions for Tishomingo, Bolivar, Lamar, Pearl River, and Newton associations.

For 15 years he was pastor and missionary in Illinois and Indiana, including three years (1956-59) as pioneer missionary in northern Indiana.

In retirement he plans to do supply and interim preaching and substitute teaching in the public schools.

# Off The Record

A young woman boarded a bus. Something was wrong with the lights, which had gone out. A tall man standing near asked if he could help her find a strap.

“Thank you,” she replied, “but I already have found one.”  
“Are you sure?” he inquired.  
“Quite,” said she.  
“Splendid,” he remarked. “Then would you mind letting go of my necktie?”

# Aberdeen Honors Robert Cooper

The whole town of Aberdeen turned out recently to celebrate the 90th birthday of Robert L. Cooper and his 70th year as a Southern Baptist music evangelist. A party was held at Toney's Restaurant. WMPA Radio, which broadcast the event, was host.

Cooper is a member of First Church, Aberdeen, Ferrell Cork, pastor. The mayor of Aberdeen, H. A. Miller, read the following sketch about of Cooper's life, written by Sarah L. Peugh.

Thursday, February 21, 1980

# First, Jackson; Woodville Heights

# Churches Use TV Spots To Make Maximum Impact

FORT WORTH — More and more Baptist churches, interested in making a maximum impact on their communities but unable to afford the expense of broadcasting a Sunday worship service, have begun practicing the slogan, “It pays to advertise.”

“Spot advertisements for radio and television are effective, promote a good church image and can be tailored to fit any church's budget,” noted John Cobb Smith of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission's television department.

Local scenes lend themselves to spots, Smith said.

First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss., is a church that used local landmarks as starting points for spots.

“Frank Pollard (the pastor) was taped in front of Jackson's historic Old Capitol building talking about Christian foundations and how Jesus can restore lives.”

Also in Jackson, Woodville Heights Baptist Church decided to go for the children's audience. Pastor Carl Savell wanted a spot to be aired during the Saturday morning cartoon time. A split-television screen featured three small children, each telling why they went to Woodville Heights Church and inviting their friends to join them there.

Also spots slanted toward adults were shown on Sunday afternoons and in evening news times, on Channels 12 and 16. Spots for both children and adults were shown at intervals over a period of six months. (At the same time, spots for the youth audience were aired on radio, WZVQ.)

Pastor Savell said that the response to the advertising was good, and that he would be in favor of using such spots again, any time the church has funds available for them.

The spots produced by East Hill Baptist Church, Pensacola, are other examples of “on location” spots. One was taped on the beach, another with the USS Lexington in the background, one of them in the church's recreation area and the last in a garage owned by one of the church members. Pastor Larry Wimberly used each setting as a starting point for the message.

“In Selma, Ala.,” Smith said, “we showed Henry L. Lyon III in a boat talking about the peace and unity of a

fishing holiday but reminding that permanent peace is found only in Jesus. He closed with an invitation to First Baptist Church.”

Smith named several things pastors should consider when planning to use spots for local promotion.

“First, decide whether the church wants to promote a revival or some other special event, introduce a new pastor to the community, project an image whatever,” he advised.

Smith also suggested the pastor get professional help to develop the copy. “Many pastors can write but have trouble condensing the message into 30 seconds.”

Production time is another consideration. “At the very least, the amount of time needed to tape four good 30-second spots is two very full working days,” Smith said.

“When producing spots, we try to put the pastor in situations where he's comfortable. Bob Woods, pastor of First Baptist Church, Muskogee, is a sailboat enthusiast. When we put him on a boat with his family, he was right at home, and what he said came across the way he wanted it to.”

“In Memphis, First Baptist wanted to introduce its new pastor, Earl Davis, to the community,” Smith said. “His hobby is glass sculpting, so we showed him in his home making glass figures.”

Smith suggested pastors consider subjects for announcements from “situations you see and deal with in your own church. Draw your analogies from them.”

Ridgemont Baptist Church, Abilene, was meeting in portable buildings. “We taped their pastor, Tom Lanier, working on the yard outside the buildings. He said any kind of building can be used by churches because churches really are just people, drawn together by Jesus.”

“Churches interested in the kind of professional help the broadcast services department can provide can contact us here at the Radio and Television Commission,” Smith said.

Smith, who produces and directs many of the spots produced for churches by the Commission's broadcast services department, said production costs can range widely depending on the complexity and loca-

tion of the spots.  
“Spots produced in the videotape studios at the Radio and Television Commission can be done for as little as \$200 each,” he added, “but complex spots, filmed in multiple locations, might cost as much as \$2,000 each.

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# Staff Changes

Paul Medley has resigned as pastor at Magnolia Church, Jackson County. He and his family are moving to Georgia.

Broadmoor Church, Jackson, has called Jerry W. Pounds as minister of youth. Pounds, a native of New Orleans, holds the Bachelor of Arts degree from Samford University, and M.R.E. degree from New Orleans Seminary.



While at seminary, Jerry and his wife, Bayne, were co-recipients of the Outstanding Religious Education Student Award for 1978-1979. She is the former Bayne Bagdanovich of Jacksonville, Fla.

Licensed by the First Baptist Church of New Orleans, he has served churches in Alabama, Mississippi, and Colorado. He has been associated with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, led revivals and retreats in several states and has written for Home Life and Church Recreation magazines. David R. Grant is pastor at Broadmoor.

Jimmy Moore has been called as pastor of Walnut Church, Vance. He is a student at Mid-America Seminary, Memphis, Tenn.

Danny M. Crow has been called as pastor of the West Marks Church, Marks. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe M. Crow, Jr., of Vicksburg. Mrs. Crow, formerly Rebecca Cade, is from Kentwood, La.

Crow is enrolled in the Master of Divinity program at Mid-America Seminary, Memphis, Tenn.

William R. Rosser has been called as pastor of Providence Church, Grenada. Mrs. Rosser, the former Linda Rutherford, is from Montgomery, Ala. Rosser is a former student of Mid-America Seminary, Memphis, Tenn.

Rob Davis has accepted a call to the pastorate of Cambridge Church, Jackson County. He is a student at New Orleans Seminary.

Lynn Mackey has resigned the pastorate of Southside Church, Jackson County. He and his family have moved to a new church field near his home town in Florida.

Bob Pekey has been called as pastor of Meadowbrook Church, Byhalia. He is a student at Mid-America Seminary, Memphis, Tenn. His wife, the former Joan Dunlap, is an Alabamian.

Steve Sims has accepted the position as part-time minister of youth at First Church, Crystal Springs.

Grant Clark has resigned the Tate Street Church, Corinth, effective June 1. He will be available to serve as pastor or interim pastor.

Clark has served as pastor of Tate Street Church for 13 years. He can be contacted by phone at 286-2935 or 287-2277. His address is 1706 Highland, Corinth, Miss. 38834.

Leaf River Church of Covington County has called Bruce Lancaster of Mt. Olive as minister of music and youth. He began work there Feb. 10. His wife is the former Sheila Harvey. Jimmy Collins of Laurel is the pastor.

Horace C. Thomas is the new pastor of Shiloh Church near Corinth. He moved there from the pastorate of Immanuel Church, Greenwood. Thomas, a native of New Albany, is married to the former Delynnne Murrah of New Albany. They have one son, Gregg, a ministerial student at Blue Mountain and minister of music and youth at North Winona Church, Winona.

Thomas is a graduate of Blue Mountain College. He formerly was pastor of Trinity Church, Fulton, for 12 years and Belden Church, Tupelo, for 10 years.

# Just For The Record . . .



FIRST CHURCH, SOUTHAVEN held a note burning service on Jan. 27 commemorating the total payment of \$165,000, begun in 1965. Jimmy Ross, pastor, presented the note to Mike Harrison, chairman of deacons, as Emory Brock led the fire. Gerald Davis offered the prayer of dedication. The pastor wrote later, “The congregation bowed their heads in gratitude and rejoicing in the word of Paul, ‘I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.’”

Immanuel Church, Greenwood, led Leflore Association during 1979 in number baptisms, total additions, largest increase in Sunday School attendance, and largest increase in Church Training attendance. (There were over 100 additions to the church in the past year and a half.) A bus ministry and children's church have been started. Horace Thomas, pastor, recently resigned to accept the pastorate of Shiloh Church near Corinth.

Madison Church's young people visited the Willard F. Bond Home recently, a retirement home in Madison. The girls and boys shined the men's shoes and manicured the women's nails. The home is a project which was under direction of Dan Hall, associate pastor.

The new New Testament is seen in the claim that the Bible is a closed book, and that the age of inspiration is past. — Ralph Waldo Emerson.



Robert L. Cooper, pianist and singer, has been a Southern Baptist music evangelist for 70 years.

He's a classic, an individualist. Since 19 years of age, until 90, and all the while in his own inimitable way, he's developed The Robert L. Cooper style!

He's an actor, a singer, a pianist, a composer, an artist per se; He's Robert L. Cooper, who sings: 'I did it my way!'

Robert Cooper's career started in 1909; Taft was president; the Bible Belt was a wide open field; His first revival was as pioneer as the town itself Of Calhoun City, Mississippi, which had only been chartered two years.

He studied music at Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, in 1910 and 1914 And again in New Orleans Seminary in 1919. He wrote a hundred songs during his career And published a song book, “Sing, Unto The Lord.”

Robert Cooper on one of his gospel Singing treks met and wooed Mattie White, city clerk of Rosedale, to be his wife in 1915. Three children blessed their union Augusta, Robert, Jr. and Elizabeth.

With a family, a full-time gospel music career Led his inimitable music to touch thousands Big and small, rich and poor, In cathedrals and in tents, in Southern Baptist Conventions And in small country churches; he sang, for great Men like Gypsy Smith, Jr. and George W. Truett, evangelists. He sang for judges; for prisoners; He sang in crowds and for small groups.

A statesman, a citizen, a public servant He served in the Mississippi House of Representatives from 1956 to 1960 And an additional four years following as the Speaker of the House.

Noted in 1979 and Robert L. Cooper, Sr. is a novelty. He has been gone since 1961 and Robert, Jr., who, Our Trojan has climbed the highest mountain Making hearts glad all along the way with music and song.

Singer is facing him; he has had many accolades but his greatest is yet to come when the master calls. Everyone knows what he'll do: He'll go into His presence, ask for a piano, sing, and give Thanksgiving unto his Maker, Robert L. Cooper style!



